

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 00204 181030Z
ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 FEA-01 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 /154 W
-----181038Z 077169 /17

P R 180935Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5495
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0204

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS : PLOS
SUBJECT : LOS: INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON COMMITTEE I MATTERS IN
GENEVA; REGIONAL ARAB LOS MEETING, CAIRO 18 JANUARY

REF: (A) STATE 3591, (B) STATE 009443, (C) ABU DHABI 166
(NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY LOS OFFICER JAN 17 DISCUSSED SUBJECTS RAISED
STATE REFTELS WITH TAJ AL-SIR HAMZA, DIRECTOR LEGAL
AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, MFA, WITH FOLLOWING RESULT.
2. RE EVENSEN GROUP MEETING IN GENEVA, HAMZA STATED HE DID
NOT KNOW IF UAEG WOULD BE REPRESENTED. HE AGREED SESSION
WAS IMPORTANT AND ISSUES CRITICAL, BUT HE WOULD HAVE TO
DISCUSS QUESTION OF ATTENDANCE WITH MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN
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AFFAIRS, SAIF GHUBBASH, WHEN LATTER RETURNED FROM
ARAB FOREIGN MINSTERS' MEETING IN CAIRO. HAMZA
PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY OF DECISION.

3. RE REGIONAL ARAB LOS MEETING, HAMZA STATE HE
EXPECTED FULL RANGE OF LOS ISSUES WOULD BE EXAMINED.
HE COMMENTED THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DIVERGENCE WITHIN

ARAB GROUP AND IT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT UNIFIED POSITIONS WOULD BE DEVELOPED ON NUMBER ISSUES. HE NOTED SPECIFICALLY STRAITS QUESTION WHERE HE PUT UAE IN OPPOSITE CAMP (WITH IRAQ) FROM THAT OF EGYPT AND OMAN. ON THREE ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED REF B -- (A) EXPLOITATION OF DEEP SEA BED--HAMZA CHARACTERIZED UAE POSITION AS GENERALLY "THIRD WORLD", IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL REGIME. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS UAE STANCE WAS NOT FIRMLY DEFINED AND DID NOT RULE OUT SUPPORT FOR ACCESS BY INDIVIDUAL STATES AND THEIR NATIONALS. HE READILY ACKNOWLEDGED KEY IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE AND WAS FAMILIAR BOTH WITH US POSITION AS WELL AS OUR COMPROMISE EFFORTS. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY'S HIGHLIGHTING THIS ASPECT OF LOS AND PROMISED RAISE MATTER WITH MINSTATE GHUBBASH ON HIS RETURN. (B) ECONOMIC ZONE--HAMZA STATED THAT UAE DRAFT LOS STATUTE DECLARED ECONOMIC ZONE TO BE HIGH SEAS. THIS WAS OF COURSE NOT YET LAW (SEE 76 ABU DHABI 0130) BUT AS OF NOW THIS WAS UAE POSITION AND HE EXPECTED IT TO REMAIN SO. (C) SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH--HAMZA SAID UAE HAD NOT YET TAKEN POSITION ON THIS POINT.

4. COMMENT: GENERALLY UAEG SEEMS TO HAVE OPEN MIND ON MOST LOS ISSUES OR HAS COME DOWN IN DIRECTIONS WE FAVOR. SO LONG AS THERE IS DIVERGENCE WITHIN THE ARAB BLOCK, WE EXPECT IT WILL BE OPEN TO FURTHER ARGUMENT. CERTAINLY HAMZA BELIEVES AGREEMENT IS IN UAE'S INTERESTS AND THAT NEXT SESSION WILL PROBABLY

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BE DECISIVE. PROBLEM IS LIMITED HUMAN RESOURCES WHICH UAE HAS TO DEVOTE TO THIS SUBJECT. THIS MAY LEAD TO ABSENCE FROM EVENSEN GROUP SESSION AND IS LIKELY TO LIMIT UAE INFLUENCE REGARDLESS OF POSITIONS TAKEN.
DICKMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARABS, LAW OF THE SEA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ABUDH00204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770018-0236
Format: TEL
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770144/aaaablsh.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f034dbd5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 3591, 77 STATE 9443, 77 ABU DHABI 166
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3577102
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON COMMITTEE I MATTERS IN GENEVA; REGIONAL ARAB LOS MEETING, CAIRO 18 JANUARY
TAGS: PLOS, OCON, PFOR, US, TC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f034dbd5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009